

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 20

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 23 April 1970

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR



By direction of the President, under the Joint Resolution of Congress approved 12 July 1862 (amended by act of 3 March 1863, act of 9 July 1918, and act of 25 July 1963), the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty is awarded posthumously by the Department of the Army in the name of Congress to:



Private First Class *Phill G. McDonald*, [REDACTED], United States Army, who distinguished himself on 7 June 1968 while serving as a Team Leader with the 1st Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam. While on a combat mission near Kontum City, his platoon came under a heavy barrage of automatic weapons fire from a well-concealed company-size enemy force. Volunteering to escort two wounded comrades to an evacuation point, Private *McDonald* crawled through intense fire to destroy with a grenade an enemy automatic weapon threatening the safety of the evacuation. Returning to his platoon, he again volunteered to provide covering fire for the maneuver of the platoon from its exposed position. Realizing the threat he posed, enemy gunners concentrated their fire on Private *McDonald's* position, seriously wounding him. Despite his painful wounds, Private *McDonald* recovered the weapon of a wounded machinegunner to provide accurate covering fire for the gunner's evacuation. When other soldiers were pinned down by a heavy volume of fire from a hostile machinegun to his front, Private *McDonald* crawled toward the enemy position to destroy it with grenades. He was mortally wounded in this intrepid action. Private *McDonald's* conspicuous gallantry at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty, which resulted in the saving of the lives of his comrades, is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon him, his unit, and the United States Army.



GO 20

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM,
*Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.*

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
*General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.*

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